

Dorset Guitar Society

Newsletter



Nov. 2008

DGS annual concert - thoughts from Stephen ...



Stephen, Grant Bocking and the DGS Orchestra ...

I'd like first to thank everybody for their contributions to the success of our last concert, soloists and ensemble players - and non-playing members, all. I hope everybody was able to enjoy the occasion - despite the inevitable stresses it brings! - and took in the appreciative reaction of our large and friendly audience. I certainly think the afternoon format worked brilliantly, not least because of all the super cakes ... and, of course, because of the tremendous organisational skill and effort of **Margaret, Nick** and many other members.

One thing I found very interesting listening afterwards to the recordings kindly - and I mean that! - made by **Bob**. I learnt an interesting lesson (probably not for the first time...) a while ago when I made my first **YouTube** video. Listening to the audio recording without watching the video I noticed a bit of a slip in one place, but when watching the video I just didn't hear the slip.

The moral of the story for our

concert and the recording is this: if you listened to the recordings and thought there were mistakes, bad ensemble, all sorts of things to improve, you would be right, there always are those things. But if you had been in the audience watching the live performance, you would have noticed them so much less that they would not have been an issue at all. Simple as that.

There are things to improve at whatever level one is performing,

its just that the 'higher' one gets the player makes smaller slips but cares about them just as much - but at the same time, is properly better able to put them in context and not allow them to get in the way.

So a little plug; that first YouTube video was the one called **Song for Rhiannon**, put on in October last year. If you have broadband why not go and see if you can see the slip I was so worried about back then. The channel is called Jacaranda Music: (www.youtube.com/user/JacarandaMusic)

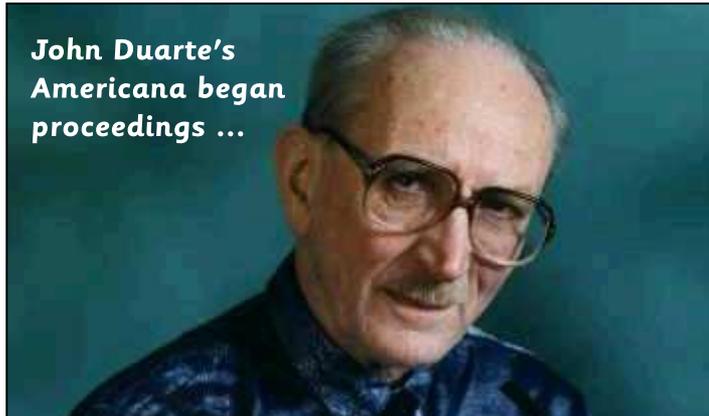
Thanks again everybody, you really are a great bunch!

Stephen

October meeting ... and concert

A slightly unusual October, in that the monthly society meeting was held a week earlier than normal (Oct. 12), in order to allow a final rehearsal for the Concert on Oct 19.

The Oct. 12 session was given over entirely to polishing the three orchestra pieces, which had all finally come together with a good degree of coherence - obviously the proximity to the concert was beginning to focus minds



John Duarte's Americana began proceedings ...

And so to the concert of Oct 19. A large audience (around 60 people - and not all relatives and friends of the players ...) assembled for an afternoon of guitar music. The first was half kicked off in fine style by **Stephen** with a spirited performance of **Duarte's Americana Op. 96**, which set the standard for the rest of the concert. **Andy** continued by moving things from North to South America, introducing pieces by **Cardoso** and **Lauro**.

Solo performance then gave way to a quartet, featuring **Maurice, John, Ann and Margaret**, who brought us over the ocean to Europe, and pieces by **Passereau, Scarlatti and Gasper Sanz**. Staying in Spain, **Maurice, Peter and John** then brought first half proceedings to a rousing close with four 'classic' pieces by **Issac Albéniz - Sevilla, Cordoba, Granada and Cadiz**.



Issac Albéniz was strongly featured in the first half ...

Following this tour of Spanish cities, and an interval featuring lots of cake, the second half featured the full **DGS Guitar Orchestra**. **Stephen** took up the baton, we all paid attention, and the dreamy introduction to **Daydreams (Richard Charlton, Arr. S. Marsh)**, began to float across the room. Followed up by the syncopated rhythms of **Bach Goes to Town (Alex Templeton, Arr S. Kenyon)**, both pieces sounded really good from within the body of the orchestra.

The final piece was the 'world premiere' of **Grant Bocking's Ashley Hall** suite. The eight sections describe the approach to, and tour of, an imaginary country house - its grounds, facade, interiors and paintings. As the final strains of Maurice's Fender guitar (!), and the 'Yesterday' motif, faded away we all looked at the composer (sitting in the audience), and were relieved to see him applauding as enthusiastically as the rest of the audience.

As usual, taking part in such an event was great fun, and a real experience for those of us unused to performing in front of paying audiences. Those present seemed to enjoy the whole concert, and gave some very positive feedback afterwards.

Postscript - thanks to the technical ingenuity of **Bob**, we all got to hear ourselves afterwards, with the MP3 files Bob had recorded and e-mailed out in the week after the event. It was great to have a record of the concert and to be able to hear yourself (warts and all!). Many thanks to Bob - and I'm sure we could burn off a few CDs for anyone who didn't get the e-mailed versions for whatever reason.



Blandford jottings

A well-attended Blandford guitar evening on **16th October** had a distinctly South American flavour, including most of **Jose Merlin's Suite del Recuerdo** played by **Bryan Phillips**. As for contributions from DGS members, **Sue** and **Bill R** performed a set of duos: **La Catalane (trad)**; **Un Retrato (Juan Hegera)**; **Fuji San (Maria Linnemann)**; **Manha de Carnival (Luis Bonfa)** and **Russian Twango (trad)**. **Andy Khan** played us a **Milonga by Jorge Cardoso**, followed by two **Lauro** pieces, **Virgilio** and **Natalia**; and **Julian** played

Bach's Sarabande and Gavottes from the 6th Cello Suite.

November's event at the Woodhouse Gardens Pavilion is next week, on **Wednesday 19th November** (a one-off change from the usual third Thursday of the month) at 7.20pm. As usual, please email me at julian@renrag.co.uk if you're interested in coming to listen or play. And you may like to note that **Thursday 18th December** is the Christmas guitar evening, especially if you have something festive to play, eat or drink!



Michael Partington - November Tour

Seattle based British Classical Guitarist **Michael Partington** returns to the UK in November with a series of solo performances across the country. This long awaited tour will round off a successful year for this internationally recognised artist and marks his first visit home since taking up the post of Director of the Guitar Programme at the **University of Washington** in 2007. Do not miss the opportunity to see this most engaging and versatile performer whose recent performances Stateside have included a series of chamber concerts with the **Kairos String Quartet**, concerts with the Flautist **Paul Taub** in their duo 'Dinamici' and as Concerto Soloist performing **Rodrigo's 'Concerto de Aranjuez'**.

Programme

The programme for Michael's solo tour will include works by Turina, Piazzolla, Durmond, Castelnuova-Tedesco and Johanson and will also feature 'Sonata' which was written specifically for Michael by British composer Stephen Goss. The CD of this piece was released earlier in the year to wide critical acclaim:

'Michael Partington, for whom the work was written, honours it with a supremely fluent performance, bringing out the harp-like qualities of the first, the rapid repeated notes and ringing, campanella effects in the second, and the poignancy of the double variations in the third.'

Robert Levett, International Record Review, April 2008

Wednesday 26th November,

11-12 am. Four Leaf Clover Club, 1 Abbey Road, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3LE

Admission free, open to non-members. An informal hour of music and discussion.

Tel: 01935 389192
www.4leafcc.co.uk for map.

Thursday 27th November, 7.30

pm. Ashmore Village Hall, Nr. Shaftesbury, Dorset Tickets £7, under 18s £6, from Susanne Harding on 01747 811364. Bar available at this recital.
www.artsreach.co.uk

Friday 28th November, 8pm.

The Meeting House, Ilminster, Somerset

Tickets £10, Members £9.50, via 01460 55783. Dinner + concert. £18, members £17.50.

Dinner starts at 7 pm and must be booked in advance.

Saturday 29th November, 7.30

pm. St Peter's Church, West Knighton, Nr. Dorchester, Dorset Tickets £7, under 18s £5, from Richard Lawson on 01305 854205 or from Broadmayne village shop. www.artsreach.co.uk



We meet at: Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson, BH10 7LH
Registered Charity No. 1101122

Committee Members

Terry Robinson - Chairman	01305 834 774	terrydgs@fsmail.net
Stephen Kenyon - Musical Director	01305 257 099	sbk@jacaranda-music.com
Margaret Tredwell - Secretary	01425 613 739	secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk
Bill Eggleston - Treasurer	01202 824 066	
Chris Gillson and Valerie Evans		

Member of **The Federation of Guitar Societies** (www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk)
& CADArts (www.cadarts.com)

Future Meetings and Diary Dates

16 November	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	15 March	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm
21 December	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	19 April	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm
18 January 2009	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	17 May	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm
15 February	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	21 June	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm

Second Friday of the month

CODA Acoustic Night, CODA Music Trust, New Milton
An opportunity to build experience in public playing in an informal, friendly setting. All acoustic instruments welcome. 7.30 pm. Call **01305 257099** to confirm.

Third Thursday of the month

Regular playing opportunity organised by Julian Garner
Woodhouse Gardens Pavilion, Blandford Forum
7.30pm. email: **julian@renrag.co.uk**
or tel: **01258 830334** for more details

Sunday 23rd November 3 pm

Teatime with the Mandolinquents

Simon Mayor, Hilary James, Gerald Garcia and Richard Collins
Turner Sims Concert Hall, Southampton
Tickets £15 (conc £14) to include cup of tea and slice of cake

Saturday 6th December 8 pm

John Etheridge with special guest Kit Holmes

Forest Arts Centre, New Milton.

Tickets £12 (conc £11)

Tel: 01425 612393

Pre-show GUITAR WORKSHOP 6.15 - 7 pm £5

10 years and above

Saturday 31 Jan 2009 7.30pm

Maruri and Jones - Cello / Guitar duo. John the Evangelist Church, Hinton Martell Tickets are priced at £8 adult and £5 for under 18s. Contact Christine Pacey **01258 840569** to order tickets or pay on the door

Michael Partington UK Tour

November 21, St Giles in the Fields, London
November 22, Newport Music Club, Newport, Shropshire,
November 23, St Mary's Church, Kingswood, Wotton-under-Edge
November 26, Four Leaf Clover Club, Sherborne, Dorset
November 27, Ashmore, nr. Shaftesbury, Dorset
November 28, The Meeting House, Ilminster, Somerset
November 29, West Knighton Church, nr. Dorchester, Dorset

<http://www.michaelpartington.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/maestropartington>

<http://www.myspace.com/michaelpartington>



Editors bit

Thanks to Margaret, Julian and Stephen for sending in material for the Nov. newsletter - I appreciate it. So, a plea to one and all - **PLEASE** send me items (concert dates, recommendations, reviews, etc) for the Dec. newsletter as soon as possible after the next meeting - Ideally by e-mail to:

Stuart@nundy.fsworld.co.uk

Many thanks, **Stuart**